WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A storage library comprising:
2   a frame;
3   a plurality of cells supported within the frame for holding media
4   elements; and
5   a robot assembly operable for moving toward the cells and
6   manipulating media elements held by the cells, the robot assembly being containable
7   within a module which is removably mountable to the frame in order to provide
8   modular replacement and removal of the robot assembly into and out of the frame.

1   2.   The library of claim 1 wherein:
2   the robot assembly is contained within the module as the module is
3   mounted to the frame, the robot assembly being operable to move out from a
4   contained position within the module in order to move toward the cells and
5   manipulate media elements held by the cells while the module is mounted to the
6   frame.

1   3.   The library of claim 2 wherein:
2   the module is removably dismounted out of the frame while the robot
3   assembly is contained within the module to provide the modular removal of the
4   robot assembly from the frame.

1   4.   The library of claim 3 wherein:
2   the module is removably mounted into the frame while a new robot
3   assembly is contained within the module to provide the modular replacement of the
4   robot assembly into the frame.

1   5.   The library of claim 1 wherein:
2   the module is removably mountable to a front side of the frame.

1   6.   The library of claim 1 wherein:
2   the module is removably mountable to a back side of the frame.

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1   7.   The library of claim 1 wherein:

2   the module is removably mountable to the frame independent of the

3   support provided by the frame to the cells.

1   8.   The library of claim 1 further comprising:

2   a drive supported in the frame for receiving a media element;

3   wherein the robot assembly is operable to load a media element held

4   by a cell into the drive.

1   9.   The library of claim 1 further comprising:

2   a device having at least one of a power supply and a controller, the

3   device having a plug-connector;

4   wherein the module has a corresponding plug-connector, wherein the

5   plug connectors connect with one another to connect the module to the device when

6   the module is mounted to the frame.

1   10.   A robotics module for a storage library having a plurality of

2   cells supported within a frame for holding media elements, the robotics module

3   comprising:

4   a housing which is removably mountable to the frame; and

5   a robot assembly being containable within the housing, the robot

6   assembly being operable to move out from a contained position within the housing

7   in order to move toward the cells and manipulate media elements held by the cells

8   while the housing is mounted to the frame.

1   11.   The robotics module of claim 10 wherein:

2   the housing is removably dismounted out of the frame while the robot

3   assembly is contained in the housing in order to provide modular removal of the

4   robot assembly from the frame.

1   12.   The robotics module of claim 11 wherein:

2   the housing is removably mounted into the frame while a new robot

3   assembly is contained within the module to provide the modular replacement of the

4   robot assembly into the frame.

1   13.   The robotics module of claim 10 wherein:

2   the housing is removably mountable to a front side of the frame.

1   14.   The robotics module of claim 10 wherein:

2   the housing is removably mountable to a back side of the frame.

1   15.   The robotics module of claim 10 wherein:

2   the housing is removably mountable to the frame independent of the

3   support provided by the frame to the cells.

1   16.   The robotics module of claim 10 wherein the storage library

2   further includes a drive supported in the frame for receiving a media element,

3   wherein:

4   the robot assembly is operable to load a media element held by a cell

5   into the drive while the housing is mounted to the frame.

1   17.   A method for a storage library having a plurality of cells

2   supported within a frame for holding media elements, the method comprising:

3   providing a robotics module having a robot assembly contained in a

4   housing, the robot assembly being operable to move out from a contained position

5   within the housing in order to move toward the cells and manipulate media elements

6   held by the cells while the housing is mounted to the frame; and

7   mounting the housing to the frame of the storage library.

1   18.   The method of claim 17 further comprising:

2   dismounting the housing out of the frame while the robot assembly

3   is contained in the housing in order to provide modular removal of the robot

4   assembly from the frame.

1   19.   The method of claim 18 further comprising:

2   providing a new robot assembly in the housing; and

3   mounting the housing into the frame while the new robot assembly

4 is contained in the housing to provide the modular replacement of the robot

5 assembly.

1   20.   The method of claim 19 further comprising:

2   dismounting the housing out of the frame while the new robot

3 assembly is contained in the housing in order to provide modular removal of the

4 new robot assembly from the frame.

1   21.   The method of claim 18 further comprising:

2   providing a new robotics module having a new robot assembly

3 contained in a new housing, the new robot assembly being operable to move out

4 from a contained position within the new housing in order to move toward the cells

5 and manipulate media elements held by the cells while the new housing is mounted

6 to the frame; and

7   mounting the new housing into the frame while the new robot

8 assembly is contained in the new housing to provide the modular replacement of the

9 robot assembly.